

**Claim Amendment Summary****Claims pending**

- At time of the Action: Claims 1-39.
- After this Response: Claims 1-6, 32-34, and 38.

**Canceled or Withdrawn claims:** 7-31, 35-37, and 39.**Amended claims:** none.**New claims:** none.**Claims:**

1. (ORIGINAL) A computer-implemented method facilitating similarity recognition of a digital signal, the method comprising:

obtaining a digital signal; and

deriving a recognition value representative of the digital signal such that perceptually distinct digital signals result in recognition values that are approximately independent of one another and perceptually similar digital signals result in proximally similar recognition values.

2. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising comparing the recognition value with another recognition value derived from another digital signal.

3. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the recognition value is a hash value.

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1           4.     (ORIGINAL)     A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the  
2 digital signals are digital image signals.

3  
4           5.     (ORIGINAL)     A computer-readable medium having computer-  
5 executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs the method  
6 as recited in claim 1.

7  
8           6.     (ORIGINAL)     A computer comprising one or more computer-  
9 readable media having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by  
10 the computer, perform the method as recited in claim 1.

11  
12           **Claims 7-31 are CANCELED.**

13  
14           32.    (ORIGINAL)     A computer-implemented method facilitating  
15 similarity recognition of a digital signal, the method comprising:

16           obtaining a digital signal;

17           non-linear filtering of the signal to eliminate isolated significant  
18 components of the signal;

19           deriving a recognition value from the filtered signal, the recognition value  
20 being representative of the digital signal such that perceptually distinct digital  
21 signals result in recognition values that are approximately independent of one  
22 another and perceptually similar digital signals result in proximally similar  
23 recognition values.  
24  
25

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Serial No.: 09/843,234  
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RESPONSE TO Restriction Requirement DATED  
(2004)

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atty: Kasey C. Christio

1           33.    (ORIGINAL)       A method as recited in claim 32, wherein  
2 isolated significant components of the signal are those that are geometrically  
3 weak.

4  
5           34.    (ORIGINAL)       A computer-readable medium having computer-  
6 executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs the method  
7 as recited in claim 32.

8  
9           35.    (CANCELED)

10  
11          36.    (CANCELED)

12  
13          37.    (CANCELED)

14  
15          38.    (ORIGINAL)       A computer-readable medium having computer-  
16 executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs the method  
17 comprising:

18           obtaining a digital signal; and

19           deriving a recognition value representative of the digital signal such that  
20 perceptually distinct digital signals result in recognition values that are  
21 approximately independent of one another and perceptually similar digital signals  
22 result in proximally similar recognition values.

23  
24          39.    (CANCELED)

25  
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RESPONSE TO Restriction Requirement DATED

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